What is claimed is:

1	1. An improved toombrising a name and a nead, wherein the improvement
2	comprises a bristle sub-assembly located on the head of the toothbrush comprising:
3	at least one tuft of bristles, wherein said tuft of bristles comprises a
4	plurality of U-shaped bristles in which a cross-section of said
5	bristles forms a polygon, wherein a first end and a second end of
6	said bristles are embedded in the head such that a middle section of
7	said bristles form a flattened area for contact with a tooth.
1	2. The improved toothbrush of claim 1, wherein at least a middle portion of each bristle is
<u> </u>	twisted lengthwise, such that the tooth contacts more than one corner of the
2 3	polygon during brushing.
1	3. The improved toothbrush of claim 1, wherein said polygon is a regular polygon.
1	4. The improved toothbrush of claim 3, wherein all of the internal angles of said regular
1 1 1 1 2 1 1 1 2 1 1 1 1 2 1 1 1 1 1 1	polygon are less than or equal to 120°.
] [] 1	5. The improved toothbrush of claim 3, wherein said regular polygon is selected from the
⁻¹ 2	group consisting of:
3	a) a triangle;
4	b) a square;
5	c) a pentagon; and
6	d) a hexagon.
1	6. The improved toothbrush of claim 1, wherein there is a plurality of alternating tufts of
2	bristles, wherein a middle section of the bristles in each tuft of bristles is at a 90
3	degree angle to the middle section of the bristles in the tuft of bristles directly
4	adjacent to it.

1

2

3

4

5

1

2

3

1

2

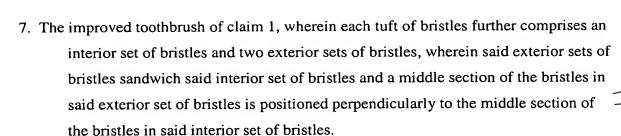
1

2

3

1

2



- 8. The improved toothbrush of claim 1, wherein the handle comprises at least four thumb grips arranged radially around an axis of the handle, wherein said thumb grips comprise a concave area with a plurality of raised parallel ridges.
- 9. The improved toothbrush of claim 8, wherein a longitudinal cross-section of said handle is elliptical.
- 10. An improved toothbrush comprising a handle and a head, wherein the improvement comprises at least four thumb grips arranged radially around an axis of the handle, wherein said thumb grips comprise a concave area with a plurality of raised parallel ridges.
- 11. The improved toothbrush of claim 10, wherein a longitudinal cross-section of said handle is elliptical.